

**Criminal Justice Team**  
Lancaster County - Substance Abuse Action Team  
10:00 a.m. 555 S. 9th St.  
October 21, 2003

Criminal Justice Team - Jim Baird - Cornhusker Place, Mac Warren - Community Partner, Janice Meints- Lutheran Family Services, Gus Hitz - Youth Assessment Center, Lori Griggs- Juvenile Probation, Steve Rowoldt - Adult Probation, - Kit Boesch - Lancaster County Human Services, Toni Arntzen - Community Partner, Otto Schultz - Substance Abuse Action Team.

Next Meeting is November 18 - 10:00 - 11:30 a.m. 555 S. 9th St.
---

1. Otto updated the group on the *TREATMENT TEAM* and its launching of the Back on Track program to generate community support for removing barriers to treatment.

2. Kit updated the group on the *PREVENTION TEAM* and its receiving of the 2nd year of the Drug Free Communities grant - \$100,000. She also noted the continuous frustration in working with the state to do a survey to prepare for an application for funds from the State Incentive Cooperative Agreement (SICA). This survey is essential for getting the baseline data so that we can apply for the SICA money - which could be several hundred thousand dollars over 3 years.

3. The *MISSION STATEMENT* has been updated to fit the changes that have come down in the past two years. Gus expressed concern about the use of the technical term, "criminogenic." We may need to write a statement similar to the mission, but that is simpler and has no jargon in it. We are based on the premise that offenders have different risks and needs from other substance abusers. The Criminal Justice Team added the words "identifies the needs and" to the mission statement. It now reads:

**"The Criminal Justice team identifies and coordinates resources to meet the substance abuse and criminogenic risks and needs of persons in the criminal justice system of Lancaster County."**

4. Kit suggested that we consider *INVITING IN ALL THE EVALUATORS* periodically to tell us what gaps they are seeing in the substance abuse services system.

5. Discussion of *CHANGES IN CADAC LICENSURE*. There is a real gap in communication between the substance abuse and criminal justice system. Standardization of Levels of Care seems consistent within the state funded

system, but more inconsistent with the private system. When LB46 money starts to come down, then criminal justice will begin to adopt its standards for evaluation and contract for services that meet criminal justice standards.

6. There have been ***HUGE CHANGES IN CHARACTERISTICS OF PATIENTS*** over the past 10 years or so. Changes in their drug of choice, gender and age distribution and the increasing use of psychotropic medications were noted by Jim through his experience at Cornhusker Place. Toni volunteers with AA meetings in jail. She pointed out that most of the women in jail are ashamed to speak in a meeting about their legal problems related to their drug use. Thus, they have no place to vent their feelings.

7. Gus and Lori noted that ***YOUNG PEOPLE TODAY USE MORE METH AND COCAINE. MARIJUANA*** is as easy or easier to get than alcohol. It is easier to hide the product and the intoxication.

8. Gus noted that the ***YOUTH ASSESSMENT CENTER*** is the only place that is ***DOING JUVENILE EVALS*** for criminal justice. Pre-trial diversion would like to get access to the evaluations also. Kit asked if we should make this a high priority. The pilot project that did the evaluations at YAC proves that we can get to kids early.

9. ***TEEN COURT*** - Drug Court is another idea. Kit, Gus, & Lori will discuss further this concept further.

10. Everyone agreed to bring his or her ***AGENCY'S ETHNIC STATISTICS***. This information may help us talk more about who we need at the table.

11. Minority and Criminal Justice report is out at ***WWW.NEBAR.COM***. It is 256 pages with an executive summary. We might want to invite someone from the NEBHANDS faith community group to this team. They are targeted to minority's gaining access to services.

12. Jim noted that having several clients from the same ethnic group makes for greater success. It is a band-aid approach, but it is something.

13. Jim asked for support in ***EXPANDING CIVIL PROTECTIVE CUSTODY FROM 24 TO 72 HOURS***. Senators Vrtska, Pedersen and others support the bill. Most states have 72 hours. Many addicts need far more than 24 hours to get their heads cleared enough to make decisions. Jim will bring a draft of the bill to the next meeting.

14. Next Meeting is November 18 - 10:00 - 11:30 a.m. 555 S. 9th St.

